

Chapter 12.8

Department of Justice Regulations for Assault Weapons and Large Capacity Magazines

Article 2. Definitions of Terms Used to Identify Assault Weapons

978.20 Definitions

The following definitions apply to terms used in the identification of assault weapons pursuant to Penal Code section 12276.1:

- (a) “detachable magazine” means any ammunition feeding device that can be removed readily from the firearm with neither disassembly of the firearm action nor use of a tool being required. A bullet or ammunition cartridge is considered a tool. Ammunition feeding device includes any belted or linked ammunition, but does not include clips, en bloc clips, or stripper clips that load cartridges into the magazine.
- (b) “flash suppressor” means any device designed, intended, or that functions to perceptibly reduce or redirect muzzle flash from the shooter’s field of vision.
- (c) “forward pistol grip” means a grip that allows for a pistol style grasp forward of the trigger.
- (d) “pistol grip that protrudes conspicuously beneath the action of the weapon” means a grip that allows for a pistol style grasp in which the web of the trigger hand (between the thumb and index finger) can be placed below the top of the exposed portion of the trigger while firing.
- (e) “thumbhole stock” means a stock with a hole that allows the thumb of the trigger hand to penetrate into or through the stock while firing.
- (f) “capacity to accept a detachable magazine” means capable of accommodating a detachable magazine, but shall not be construed to include a firearm that has been permanently altered so that it cannot accommodate a detachable magazine.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 12276.5(i), Penal Code.

Reference: Sections 12276.1, 12276.5, 12280, 12285, and ~~12285~~ 12289, Penal Code.